

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 AGRE-00 CU-04 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 EPG-02
SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-07 DHA-02 ORM-02 /115 W
-----111759Z 021280 /44

R 110548Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS BEIRUT 2219

DEPT ALSO PASS AID AND USDA/FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, LE
SUBJECT: PL-480, TITLE I, COTTON

REF: BEIRUT 2195

1. THE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER FROM
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, MICHEL DOUMET, REQUESTING A
PL-480, TITLE I, AGREEMENT FOR COTTON.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

REFERRING TO OUR DISCUSSIONS ON MAY 4TH 1977 WITH THE
AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE MR. PITCHER REGARDING THE IMPORT OF
US COMMODITIES UNDER TITLE I OF P.L. 480, I HEREBY CONFIRM
OUR PRESENT NEED FOR 7,000 TONS OF COTTON TO RESUME OUR
TEXTILE INDUSTRY HEAVILY AFFECTED BY THE LEBANESE CRISIS.

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OUR TOTAL REQUIREMENT REACHES 10,000 TONS PLUS PER YEAR
DETAILED AS FOLLOWS:

NORMAL CONSUMPTION OF PREVIOUS PLANTS	5,500 TONS
CONSUMPTION OF A NEWLY ESTABLISHED PLANT	3,000 TONS
STOCK TO REPLENISH	1,600 59,

10,100 TONS

THE PLANTS WERE OUT OF STOCK IN THE PAST YEAR BECAUSE OF THE CRISIS.

WE EXPECT THE SPINNING PLANTS TO GO ON HEAVY PRODUCTION IN THE COMING MONTHS AND ESTIMATE THEIR NEED FOR IMPORT OF COTTON AT 7,000 TONS TO BE SHIPPED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1977.

WE THEREFORE SUGGEST NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO REACH A SPECIAL AGREEMENT ON THE ABOVE.

THE PROCEEDS WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY USED IN AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, ESPECIALLY THROUGH AGRICULTURAL CREDIT TO SMALL FARMERS FOR WHICH A NEW SEMI-OFFICIAL INSTITUTION IS UNDER ESTABLISHMENT.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOU OUR DEEP APPRECIATION FOR YOUR COOPERATION. END TEXT.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTION PARA 4, REFTEL.

3. THIS LETTER ALSO ENCLOSES A CHART SHOWING LEBANESE IMPORTS OF COTTON FROM 1969-1973, BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. NO STATISTICS FOR CY 74-76 ARE AVAILABLE. COPIES BEING POUCHED TO NEA/ARN AND AGATT, DAMASCUS.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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